INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interional Application No PCT/US 03/23601

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G03F7/42 G03 G03F7/075 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 GO3F Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 5 854 302 A (P.S. FOSTER ET AL.) 29 December 1998 (1998-12-29) column 15, line 54 - line 58 column 17, line 3 - line 7 column 18, paragraph 3 X 1-3,10column 25 Y US 2002/158317 A1 (G.S. BECKER ET AL.) 31 October 2002 (2002-10-31) cited in the application claims US 5 318 877 A (C.K. OBER ET AL.) 1-10 A 7 June 1994 (1994-06-07) page 4, line 50 - line 60 claims _/---Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 13/04/2004 1 April 2004 Authorized · fficer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Flijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Dupart, J.-M.

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